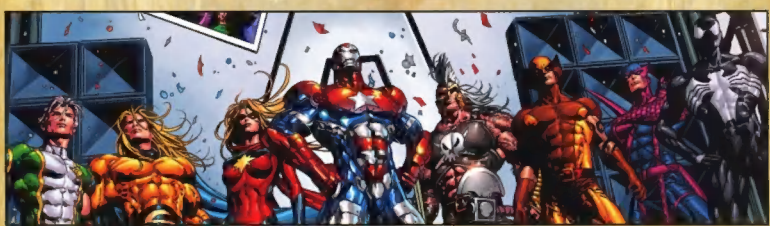
DARK WOLVERINE



Years ago, the mutant known as Wolverine found peace in Japan, and had a son with his wife, Itsu Akihiro. The peace was short-lived—Itsu was murdered and Wolverine believed his son died with her...but the boy lived.

Like his father, the son possessed enhanced senses, a powerful healing factor, and razor-sharp claws on each hand. As he grew, he blamed his father for his mother's death, and this resentment consumed him. He became known by the name he was taunted with as a child: the Japanese term for "mongrel," Daken.

In recent months, Norman Osborn, the former costumed villain known as the Green Goblin, has become the head of the U.S. government's espionage strike-team, H.A.M.M.E.R., as well as the leader of its super hero team, the Avengers. Osborn populates the Avengers with powered beings Osborn feels he can trust (such as the Sentry and Ares) and a host of super villains posing as established heroes (Bullseye as Hawkeye, Venom as Spider-Man, Marvel Boy as Captain Marvel, and Moonstone as Ms. Marvel).

Also on this new team is Daken, whom Osborn remakes...into a dark Wolverine.

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GOOD EXAMPLE.
AS YOU OBVIOUSLY KNOW, I HAVE A VERY LONG HISTORY WITH SPIDER-MAN. I'VE STUDIED HIM... EXHAUSTIVELY.
IN ADDITION TO WHAT I'VE WITNESSED FIRSTHAND, I'VE COMBED THROUGH HUNDREDS OF HOURS OF NEWS FOOTAGE.
AND Y'KNOW WHAT? I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM DO--OR SAY--ANYTHING...
...LIKE THIS.
KLIK!
MOVE, YOU STUPID BITCH!
CHARMING.

I'VE PROVIDED EVERYTHING YOU NEED IN THOSE FILES YOU'RE HOLDING. STUDY THEM. KNOW YOUR PLACES. THE PEOPLE WE'RE DEALING WITH AT TONIGHT'S GALA HAVE A LOW TOLERANCE FOR SCREW-UPS AND WE WANT THEM FAT, GREASED, AND HAPPY.
I HAVE TO ASSUME NORMAN'S FILES ON THE OTHERS MIGHT ALSO BE INCOMPLETE. BUT I KNOW ENOUGH. AND ONLY ONE OF HIS...PAWNS...MIGHT BE A PROBLEM.
SENTRY. LAPDOG. PSYCHOPATH. QUITE POSSIBLY THE MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THE WORLD.
BUT NOT THE SMARTEST.
THE GAME IS ALWAYS SIMPLE, WHEN YOU BREAK IT DOWN.
PEOPLE NEED TO BE BROKEN DOWN, TOO. DECONSTRUCTED INTO ESSENTIAL PARTS. LEARN WHAT MAKES A MAN OR WOMAN TICK, AND YOU OWN THEM.
SIR, ABOUT THOSE GUESTS--
I HAVE ANOTHER MEETING SOON. WITH THE PRESIDENT. SO LET ME REPEAT MYSELF... READ THE FILES.
THOSE GUESTS. ARMS MANUFACTURERS. MEN AND WOMEN WHO HOLD CONTRACTS WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. CONTRACTS THAT NORMAN WANTS FOR OSCORP.
...OF COURSE... SIR.
HIGHLY ILLEGAL. THOSE FINE, UPSTANDING AGENTS OF H.A.M.M.E.R. WOULD HAVE TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST NORMAN... IF THEY KNEW THE TRUTH.
ANY...OTHER... QUESTIONS?
LOOK AT HIM. ENJOYING HIS POWER. BIG MAN ON TOP, SURROUNDED BY HIS DOGS. IT'S THE ONLY REASON HE CALLS THESE MEETINGS.
THEN YOU CAN GO.
BUT DOGS BITE
AND ALL OF THIS COULD BE MINE. RIGHT NOW. WITH JUST ONE WORD.
AVENGERS... SIT BACK DOWN.

I WANT ALL OF YOU LOOKING PRETTY AND DANGEROUS TONIGHT.
SO BE IN COSTUME, OR DON'T BOTHER SHOWING UP.
AND THAT'S NOT AN OPTION.
DOES THIS PARTY HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE WEAPONS WAREHOUSE WE RAIDED IN HONG KONG?
JUST BE THERE, MS. MARVEL. LEAVE THE BIG THINKING TO ME.
HOW IS THAT OLD LADY, DAKEN? YOU EAT HER AND THE KID FOR SUPPER?
BET YOUR CLAWS MADE GOOD CHOPSTICKS.
BEING HALF-ASIAN, I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL A BIT INSULTED BY YOUR RACIAL INSENSITIVITY.
BUT THEN AGAIN, YOU ARE A MORON...SO I'LL FORGIVE YOU.

"WOULDN'T WANT TO BE LATE TO THE PARTY..."
SEEN HAWKEYE?
UH-UH.
I HATE THESE THINGS.
NO YOU DON'T. YOU JUST DON'T LIKE BEING TREATED LIKE A FREAK.
BUT THEY'RE ALL FREAKS, TOO. EVERY ONE OF THEM IS IN COSTUME, WEARING A MASK.
NO ONE SHOWS THEIR TRUE FACE, EVER. MASKS HIDE REALITY. OR WE BECOME WHO WE PRETEND TO BE.
I...DID NOT EXPECT ANYTHING LIKE THAT FROM YOU.
YES, WELL...
THAT'S ME.

Look at him. Looks just like his old man. He ought to. Little punk's wearin' my outfit.
Daken Akihiro's his name.
Norman Osborn tracked him down – he's good at that kind of thing – and made his pitch: Take a lead role in the all-new, Osborn-led, "Dark" Avengers. Sell yourself to the public as Wolverine. Tick off dear old dad.
It was an offer too good to resist. So he didn't…

Turns out the Carbonadium gave him temporary amnesia. It was a perfect opportunity to get help for Daken from the best headshrinker on the planet. Of course Chuck would agree. It's what he does – help pathetic mutants pull themselves up off the psychic floor.
Naturally, anytime you start playing Romper Room inside a brain like Daken's, the crazies come calling. In this case, it was Sebastian Shaw of the Hellfire Club with his new gal pal, Miss Sinister. It was an unholy scrap that pitted the both of us against the bad guys, and in the end, united us. While inside a mindscape conjured by Xavier, he finally came to realize that it was not me who killed his mother.
It was Romulus.
For the time, we were united in a common purpose. Revenge.
We left the fight with the Hellfire Club ready to kill our tormentor…

Dark Wolverine

Reading Chronology

Daken's origin is revealed in Daniel Way's Wolverine: Origins saga, the action-packed series that leads up to the current Dark Avengers and Dark Wolverine exploits! Here's a reading chronology that will get you up to date with all things Daken – against the backdrop of Wolverine's own journey of discovery!

1

Wolverine: Origins and Endings TPB

Collects *Wolverine #36-40*

By Daniel Way, Javier Saltares and Mark Texeira

2

Wolverine: Origins Vol. 1 – Born in Blood TPB

Collects *Wolverine Origins #1-5*

By Daniel Way and Steve Dillon

3

Wolverine: Origins Vol. 2 – Savior TPB

Collects *Wolverine Origins #6-10*

By Daniel Way and Steve Dillon

4

Wolverine: Origins Vol. 3 – Swift and Terrible TPB

Collects *Wolverine Origins #11-15*

By Daniel Way and Steve Dillon

5

Wolverine: Origins Vol. 4 – Our War TPB

Collects *Wolverine Origins #16-20*

By Daniel Way, Steve Dillon and Kaare Andrews

6

Wolverine: Origins Vol. 5 – Deadpool TPB

Collects *Wolverine Origins #21-27*

By Daniel Way, Steve Dillon and Stephen Segovia

7

X-Men: Original Sin HC

Collects *Wolverine Origins #28-30*

By Daniel Way, Mike Carey, Mike Deodato and Scot Eaton

DEADLIEST MAN ALIVE

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